

U.S. Promotes Global Security Through Exchange

From 27 January to 10 March 2012, Kamara M. Foray represented Sierra Leone at the U.S. State Department-sponsored Study of the United States Institute (SUSI) on National Security Policymaking. Mr. Foray is a lecturer at the University of Sierra Leone's Fourah Bay College in the Department of Political Science and a leading faculty member of the newly introduced Strategic Security and Development Studies Department.

The Institute on U.S. National Security Policymaking provides a group of experienced and highly-motivated foreign university faculty and related professionals with a deeper understanding of the foundations and formulation of U.S. national security policy and current threats facing the United States. The institute focuses on the formulation of U.S. foreign and national security policy and the role of the federal government, think-tanks, media, and public opinion in shaping that policy. The program examined specific security issues such as energy policy, economic stability, cyber-security, chemical and biological weapons, nuclear weapons, and infectious diseases. Focus on regional security concerns in Africa, Europe, South Asia, the Western Hemisphere, East Asia, and the Middle East was also emphasized.

Upon his return to Sierra Leone, Mr. Foray said the most interesting aspect of the program was its focus on national security policy, which concerns every aspect of the socio-economic and political landscape of the country. As the only African participant, he expressed his desire to share the knowledge he gained by integrating new topics into his department's curriculum and reaching out to relevant government ministries. He affirmed that such an experience-sharing exercise could help inform future policymaking in Sierra Leone.



Foray stated his belief that the U.S. "...will continue to lead because of their commitment to whatever they do...[America] stands by its word as a land of opportunity"

Study of the United States Institutes for Scholars are intensive post-graduate level academic programs with integrated study tours whose purpose is to provide foreign university faculty and other scholars the opportunity to deepen their understanding of U.S. society, culture, and institutions. The ultimate goal is to strengthen curricula and to improve the quality of teaching about the United States in academic institutions abroad.